Financial Incentives

Through Indiana's CREP, landowners may qualify to receive Federal and State financial incentives by applying conservation practices to their land.

Federal

- Landowners will receive annual rental payments on the eligible land taken out of production. These annual payments are based on Average Soil Rental Rates for the county. (Depending on the county, the annual payment could be as much as $250/acre/year.)
- In addition, the Farm Service Agency will make a payment equal to $100/acre as a one-time signing incentive bonus.
- The landowner will receive cost share to install conservation practices. This amount will help cover the cost of seed, seedbed preparation, fertilizers and weed control.
- The landowner will also receive an annual maintenance payment in the amount of $4/acre.

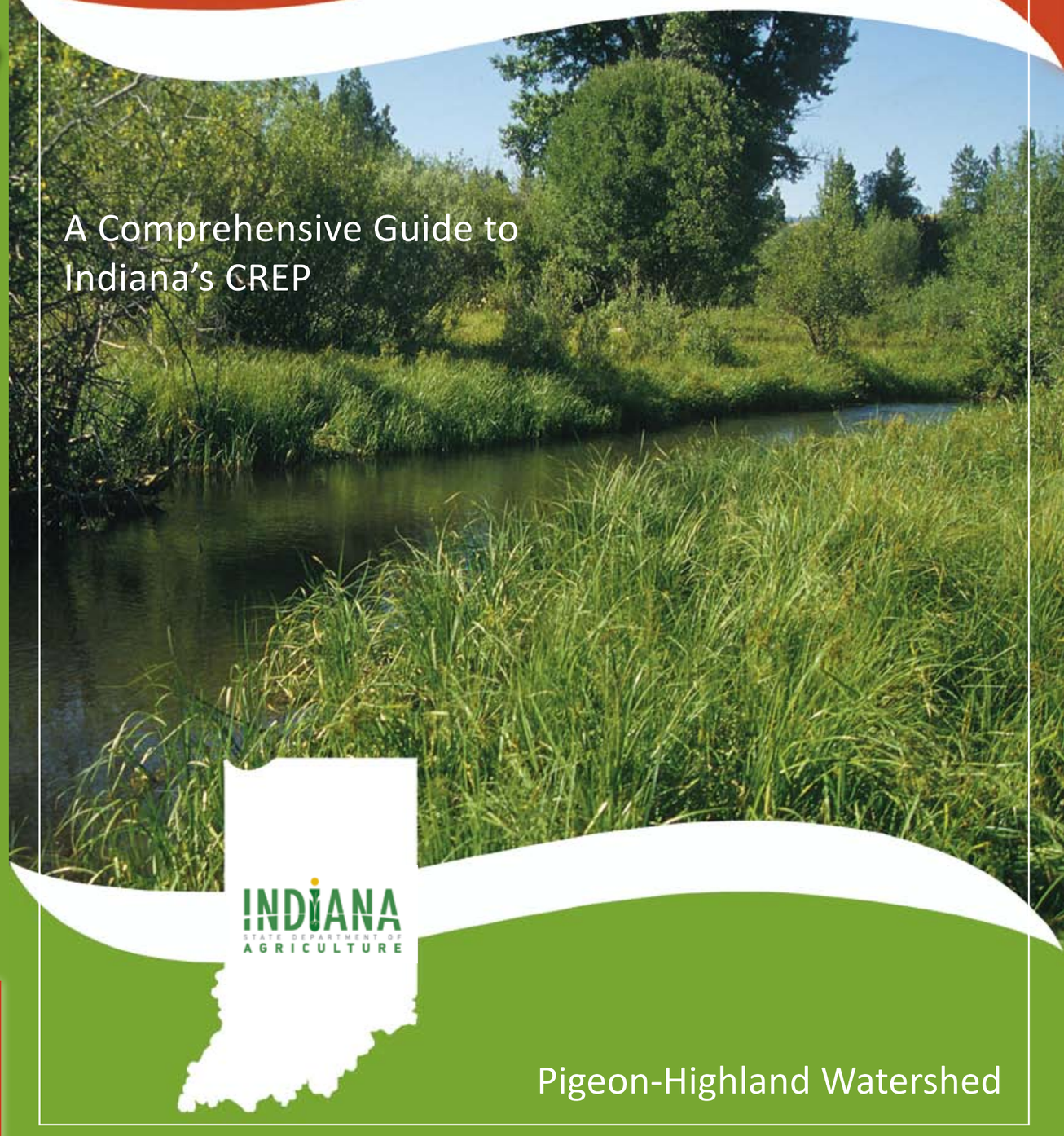
State

- One-time state incentives will be paid to qualifying landowners enrolled into CREP.
- To qualify, participants must enroll into a 14-15 year contract.
- The landowner will receive an incentive of $100/acre for any grass practice (CP2, CP4D and CP21*).
- The landowner will receive a $400/acre for any practice involving trees (CP3A, CP22, CP23, CP23A or CP31*).

*Practices described inside.

For more information
Contact your local
Soil and Water Conservation District
or
Visit ISDA's Web site at:
http://www.in.gov/isda/2368.htm

Indiana's Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)



A Comprehensive Guide to Indiana's CREP

INDIANA
STATE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Pigeon-Highland Watershed

Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program

Indiana's CREP

The Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) is a voluntary conservation program which rewards producers and landowners for installing conservation practices on their land. CREP offers cost share for reimbursement of installation expenses, annual rental payments and cash signing incentives.

Under CREP, landowners sign up to install buffers along and adjacent to water bodies, such as streams, rivers, lakes, ponds and wetlands. The landowners are required to enroll the land into a 14-15 year contract with the USDA.

Now Available to Eligible Landowners in the

Pigeon-Highland Watershed

Gibson
Pike
Posey
Vanderburgh
Warrick

Eligible Practices under Indiana's CREP

Wildlife Habitat

Apply this practice to eligible cropland that is suitably located and adapted to the establishment of permanent wildlife habitat.

- Must include both native woody and grass vegetation
- Minimum width of 35 ft.
- Maximum width of 180 ft.

Bottomland Timber

The purpose of this practice is to establish a native stand of predominantly hardwood trees in a timber planting that will enhance environmental benefits.

- Cropland must be located within the 100 year floodplain
- Entire eligible fields can be enrolled

Hardwood Trees

This practice is designed to establish a wooded corridor along and around water bodies.

- Minimum width of 35 ft.
- Maximum width of 180 ft.

Native Grasses

Native grass plantings are used to reduce soil erosion, improve water quality and create or enhance wildlife habitat. Native grass communities are often associated with prairies.

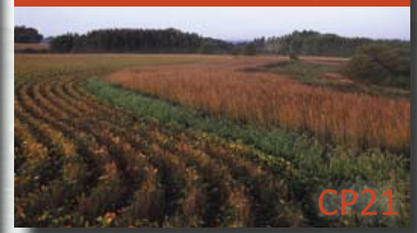
- Native warm-season and native cool season grasses grow well in Indiana
- Include common wildfowers
- Warm Season Grass plantings minimum of 50 ft. wide
- Warm Season Grass plantings maximum of 180 ft. wide

Wetland Restoration

Wetland Restoration is the re-establishment of a previously drained wetland by filling ditches, excavation, diking or removing/breaking tile drains.

- Must have hydric soils (soils saturated with water part or all of the year.)
- Debris must be removed from pipe inlets and outlets
- Pipes need to be inspected and repaired before restoration.
- Replanting wetland vegetation may be necessary
- No maximum width limits
- Entire eligible fields can be enrolled

Grassed Filter Strip



Grassed filter strips are areas of grass and other perennial (non-woody) vegetation that are established between agricultural fields and water bodies. Filter strips can provide many benefits to aquatic habitats. These benefits may include improved water quality, reduced soil erosion, stabilized stream banks, improved floodplain function and recharge of groundwater aquifers. Properly designed and maintained filter strips may also provide habitat for wildlife.

- Minimum of 35 ft. wide
- Maximum of 120 ft. wide

Riparian Buffers

Riparian forest buffers are areas of trees, shrubs and grasses established along open bodies of water. Riparian buffers help improve and maintain water quality; regulate water quantity; stabilize stream banks; provide much needed wildlife habitat; and are also a possible source of income.

- Minimum of 35 ft. wide
- Maximum of 180 ft. wide

Photos courtesy of USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service

Pigeon-Highland Watershed landowners may qualify to receive both Federal and State incentives by applying conservation practices to their land.

Financial Incentives Now Available